

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

- 5 1. A method, comprising:
- associating a first security identification (ID) with each of a plurality of instructions or
- a set of instructions that are to be executed by a processor;
- requesting to execute at least one of the plurality of instructions or set of instructions
- by a software code running on the processor;
- obtaining a second security ID associated with the software code running on the
- processor;
- comparing the second security ID with the first security ID; and
- executing the requested instruction or set of instructions providing that the second
- security ID matches the first security ID.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
- denying the execution of the requested instruction or set of instructions providing that
- the first and second security IDs mismatch.
- 15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein associating a first security identification (ID) further
- comprises:
- storing a first security identification (ID) with each of a plurality of instructions or a
- set of instructions that are to be executed by a processor.
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4. The method of claim 1, wherein associating a first security identification (ID) further comprises:

classifying at least one instruction or set of instructions from a plurality of

instructions that are to be executed by a processor as being security sensitive;

and

associating a first security identification (ID) with each of the instructions or set of

instructions that are classified as security sensitive.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein obtaining a second security ID associated with the software code running on the processor, further comprises:

determining whether the requested instruction is classified as security sensitive; and

obtaining a second security ID associated with the software code running on the

processor providing the requested instruction was determined to be security sensitive.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein determining whether the requested instruction is classified as security sensitive, further comprises:

determining whether the requested instruction has the first security ID that is stored.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein comparing the second security ID with the first security ID further comprises:

comparing a portion of the second security ID with a portion of the first security ID.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein executing the requested instruction or set of instructions providing that the second security ID matches the first security ID further comprises:

executing the requested instruction or set of instructions providing that the portion of
5 the second security ID matches the portion of the first security ID.

9. An apparatus, comprising:

a processor for running code thereon, and for associating a first security identification

(ID) with each of a plurality of instructions or a set of instructions that are to

10 be executed by the processor;

wherein the processor receives a request to execute at least one of the plurality of

instructions or set of instructions by the code running thereon, obtains a

second security ID associated with the code, compares the second security ID

with the first security ID, and executes the requested instruction or set of

15 instructions providing that the second security ID matches the first security ID.

10. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the processor denies the execution of the requested instruction or set of instructions providing that the first and second security IDs mismatch.

20 11. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the processor stores the first security identification (ID) with each of a plurality of instructions or a set of instructions that are to be executed by a processor within a programmable register.

12. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the processor classifies at least one instruction or set of instructions from a plurality of instructions that are to be executed as being security sensitive, and associates the first security identification (ID) with each of the instructions or set of instructions that are classified as security sensitive.

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13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the processor determines whether the requested instruction is classified as security sensitive, and obtains the second security ID associated with the software code running on the processor providing the requested instruction was determined to be security sensitive.

14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the processor determines whether the requested instruction has the first security ID stored therewith within the programmable register.

15. The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the processor compares at least a portion of the second security ID with at least a portion of the first security ID.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the processor executes the requested instruction or set of instructions providing that the portion of the second security ID matches the portion of the first security ID.

17. An article comprising one or more machine-readable storage media including instructions that when executed enable a processor to perform:

associating a first security identification (ID) with each of a plurality of instructions or a set of instructions that are to be executed by the processor;

requesting to execute at least one of the plurality of instructions or set of instructions
by a software code running on the processor;
obtaining a second security ID associated with the software code running on the
processor;
5 comparing the second security ID with the first security ID; and
executing the requested instruction or set of instructions providing that the second
security ID matches the first security ID.

18. The article of claim 17, further comprising:
10 denying the execution of the requested instruction or set of instructions providing that
the first and second security IDs mismatch.

19. The article of claim 17, wherein associating a first security identification (ID) further
comprises:
15 storing a first security identification (ID) with each of a plurality of instructions or a
set of instructions that are to be executed by a processor.

20. The article of claim 17, wherein associating a first security identification (ID) further
comprises:

20 classifying at least one instruction or set of instructions from a plurality of
instructions that are to be executed by a processor as being security sensitive;
and
associating a first security identification (ID) with each of the instructions or set of
instructions that are classified as security sensitive.

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21. The article of claim 20, wherein obtaining a second security ID associated with the software code running on the processor, further comprises:

determining whether the requested instruction is classified as security sensitive; and
obtaining a second security ID associated with the software code running on the
processor providing the requested instruction was determined to be security
sensitive.

22. The article of claim 21, wherein determining whether the requested instruction is classified as security sensitive, further comprises:

determining whether the requested instruction has the first security ID that is stored.

23. The article of claim 17, wherein comparing the second security ID with the first security ID further comprises:

comparing a portion of the second security ID with a portion of the first security ID.

24. The article of claim 23, wherein executing the requested instruction or set of instructions providing that the second security ID matches the first security ID further comprises:

executing the requested instruction or set of instructions providing that the portion of
the second security ID matches the portion of the first security ID.